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IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic apparatus for processing audio/video data, comprising:

a data processing subunit, included within said electronic apparatus, for receiving and processing audio/video input data;

a first functional block, included within said data processing subunit, operative as an audio/visual processing functional block to process the audio/visual input data;

a second functional block, included within said data processing subunit, operative as a terminating functional block to terminate the data processed by said first functional block by transforming the audio/visual data into a user-visible signal and outputting said user-visible signal being not processed afterward;

a memory for storing information pertaining to said data processing subunit and said second functional block, wherein the information stored in said memory is accessible by an external electronic apparatus connected to said electronic apparatus via a serial data bus; and

connection means for connecting said electronic apparatus and said external electronic apparatus via said serial data bus,

wherein said information pertaining to said first and second functional blocks stored within said memory includes ~~type-information~~ indicative of specific capabilities of said first and second functional blocks and virtual plug information of said first and second functional blocks

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and the virtual plug information of said second functional block contains information indicating that the input plug of said second functional block is connected to said first functional block.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein the information stored in said memory indicates that said second functional block terminates data received by the data processing subunit.

4-8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein said memory has a hierarchical structure.

10. (Previously Presented) The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein said data is video data and said second functional block is a video display means that terminates said video data by converting the processed data into a video signal and displaying video corresponding thereto.

11. (Previously Presented) The electronic apparatus of claim 10 wherein said video display means is a display.

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12. (Previously Presented) The electronic apparatus of claim 10 wherein said video display means is a printer.

13. (Previously Presented) The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein said data is audio data and said second functional block is an audio output means that terminates said audio data by converting it into sound corresponding thereto.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein said serial data bus performs data communication in accordance with the IEEE-1394 standard.

18. (Previously Presented) The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein said electronic apparatus is a digital television receiver.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for processing data, comprising:
receiving input audio/video data at a data processing subunit included within an
electronic apparatus and processing the received input audio/video data at a first functional block

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within said data processing subunit included within said electronic apparatus, wherein said audio/video input data is received by said electronic apparatus over a serial bus;

terminating said processed data with a second functional block included within said subunit by transforming the audio/visual data into a user-visible signal and outputting said user-visible signal not processed afterward; and

storing information pertaining to said data processing subunit and said second functional block in a memory,

wherein the information stored in said memory is accessible by an external electronic apparatus connected to said electronic apparatus via said serial data bus, and

wherein said information pertaining to said first and second functional blocks stored within said memory includes type information indicative of specific capabilities of said first and second functional blocks and virtual plug information of said first and second functional blocks and the virtual plug information of said second functional block contains information indicating that the input plug of said second functional block is connected to said first functional block.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the information stored in said memory indicates that said second functional block terminates data received by said data processing subunit.

22- 25. (Canceled)

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26. (Currently Amended) A system having a plurality of electronic apparatuses connected via a serial data bus to enable transmission of data among said apparatuses, comprising:

a data transmitting apparatus for transmitting audio/video data over said serial data bus;

a data receiving apparatus for receiving the audio/video data transmitted by said serial data transmitting apparatus over said data bus;

wherein said data receiving apparatus comprises:

a data processing subunit, included within said receiving apparatus, for processing said received audio/video data;

a first functional block, included within said data processing subunit, operative as an audio/visual processing functional block to process the audio/visual input data;

a second functional block, included within said data processing subunit, operative as a terminating functional block to terminate the data processed by said first functional block by transforming the audio/visual data into a user-visible signal and outputting said user-visible signal being not processed afterward; and

a memory for storing information pertaining to said data processing subunit and said second functional block, wherein the information stored in said memory is accessible by an external electronic apparatus connected to said electronic apparatus via said serial data bus,

wherein said information pertaining to said first and second functional blocks stored within said memory includes ~~type~~ information indicative of specific capabilities of said first and second functional blocks and virtual plug information of said first and second functional blocks

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and the virtual plug information of said second functional block contains information indicating that the input plug of said second functional block is connected to said first functional block.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26 wherein the information stored in said memory indicates that said second functional block terminates data received by said data processing subunit.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A data processing method for processing data in a system having a plurality of electronic apparatuses connected via a serial data bus, comprising the steps of:

transmitting audio/video data from a transmitting apparatus to a receiving apparatus of said plurality of apparatuses;

receiving the audio/video data at a data processing subunit included within said receiving apparatus;

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processing the audio/video data received by said data processing subunit in a first functional block included within said data processing subunit;

terminating said processed data with a second functional block included within said subunit by transforming the audio/visual data into a user-visible signal and outputting said user-visible signal not processed afterward; and

storing information pertaining to said data processing subunit and said second functional block in a memory, wherein the information stored in said memory is accessible by an external electronic apparatus connected to said electronic apparatus via said serial data bus,

wherein said information pertaining to said first and second functional blocks stored within said memory includes ~~type-information~~ indicative of specific capabilities of said first and second functional blocks and virtual plug information of said first and second functional blocks and the virtual plug information of said second functional block contains information indicating that the input plug of said second functional block is connected to said first functional block.

33. (Canceled)